

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

**Please replace the present abstract with the following rewritten abstract:**

The characteristics of an object are measured using an electrical characteristics measurement device in which a probe includes a signal terminal, a ground terminal, and a variable resistance element is connected via a coaxial cable to a measuring instrument. The calibration of the probe entails adjusting the resistance value of the variable resistance element, setting the impedance of the distal end vicinity of the probe essentially to zero, and establishing a match with the coaxial cable and measuring instrument. When the electrical characteristics of the object are measured, the resistance value of the variable resistance element is varied in accordance with the impedance created by the side of the circuit containing the measurement object as viewed from the contact between the object and the signal terminal and ground terminal, and the input impedance of the probe is set to a value that does not affect the operation of the object.

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